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Morse

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Professor J. Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Stanford University
Stanford, Cal.

Dear Joshua and Esther:

Enclosed find a copy of the MS that I would like you to send to the PNAS, subject to your approval. If you will return it with your comments, if any, to me I will send the final form required by the Proceedings. You might also advise me of what type of letter is required of me to assure that I am bearing the costs of publication. Since I have not had any contact with the Proceedings before I am completely in the dark with regard to what is needed .

I received some reprints of abstracts, etc., from the Madison department (I believe). The reprint of Esther's Montreal paper remined me that I would like to have a summary of what has been done with regard to the position effect studies among the various Gal's, such as combinations actually studied, missing ones, HFT stocks made and etc., that I will not duplicate very much material. Since the world seems cistron happy these days I beieve that we should get out all the material available. I still think that quantitative enzyme assays are needed, but we may as well go ahead and publish the preliminary information to that. If the plans go through here, I may have a new lab(s) by the fall and the biochemist who is joining us is interested in working with me on the problem and we should have some good material eventually. My parts of the cis-trans bussiness you will hear of shortly.

I have been rounding out a few points on other aspects, the only one of which you may not know is that ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ spontaneous lambda has very low transducing activity. This was found by Gal_2^- --x_5 Gal_6^- Gal_4^- using a large number of lysates (40-50 spontaeous ave. about ~~XXX~~ 10^5-10^6 plaques per ml. I have obtained ~~XXXX~~ three segregating clones and about 32 stable Gal^+. I doubt that mutation can be of concern here. This means for sure that homogenotes could be formed spontaneously in a strain which adsorbed it own phage. I have not seen any as yet and will probably not try much longer since it is not an important point.

I am also looking for a marker near Gal to use in putting things in order. I have a bunch of AA analogues which may lend themselves to easy screening. Thought that I would put resistance in H r Gal+, cross on MGal and score Gal+ by replication to analogue agar. Crude, but not requiring very much effort. I am also looking for Gal dependence, which could be worked out in minimal with penicillin and replica plating. If you have had any experience with any of these I would appreciate hearing of it.

Recently Cornell has approached me regarding Zelle's place which is now vacant. It appears good on paper, have you heard or know of any drawbacks ?

Sorry you could'nt stop with us.

As ever Larry